

Winter Adds to Allies' Burdens

Its Inevitable Hardships for Fighting Men Are Now Being Felt.

ON THE WESTERN FRONT—The Allied armies that whipped the hordes of Germany, stayed on the German heels in a hare-and-hounds pursuit through northern France and Belgium and then won the battles of the windy, rain-lashed canals of Holland now are facing an opponent new to them but familiar to the Germans. Winter and its inevitable hardships for fighting men.

The Allies experienced the preliminary stages of winter in the final phases of their fight to clear the Scheldt estuary and bring up the line to the south bank of the Meuse river. Driving cold rain, interspersed with sleet, has already fallen. It will continue in the months to come with snow and frost, and the few intervals of sunshine will be treasures.

For the bulk of Allied officers these are new conditions under which to conduct a campaign, and for most of the men there will be harder work and a greater strain on supply lines.

Early End Not Expected.

On the basis of the makeup of the German troops encountered thus far, the remaining Nazi divisions are certain to be built on a solid framework of commanders and men who participated in at least one of the three great winter campaigns in Russia and who know what the weather requires of them.

Right or wrong, few of the Allies here now are looking for an early end of the European war. The general view of the fighting men coincides with Prime Minister Churchill's recent warning that the war may carry on to Easter or beyond.

The Germans have been fighting determinedly on the defensive and the lengthening lines of Allied supply have forced a slower advance.

It still remains to be seen if the Germans' reorganized and retrained defenses form a thin but effective disguise, a hollow or partly rotten core or whether they are solid right through. In either case, there is little doubt the crust itself may be difficult and costly to crack.

Decisive Months Ahead.

"The next few months certainly will be interesting and also should be decisive," said an armored force officer, whose men have been in the fight against the Germans as long as any others in the entire Eisenhower command.

"The rate at which our troops support themselves to new problems and difficulties, which the winter campaign will involve, may settle the rapidly with which the war is concluded on the western front."

"The German veterans are past masters of all the tricks of winter warfare. We still have to learn. It will be interesting to see what sort of pupils our troops prove to be."

In the miserable terrain of the Dutch lowlands, where the German floodings and constant rains have made everything but dikes and built up roads impassable, and where progress on the roads is painfully comparable to a line of silhouetted ducks in a shooting gallery, armor is only of limited value.

The Germans, with their passion for using tanks as dug-in pillboxes, have the edge.

In western Germany, however, the land is better suited for armor and for the maneuvering tactics in which the Allied armored forces have proved superior to the enemy.

Russia Pays Honor to Four Great Women Fliers

MOSCOW—The role women play in the Red Air Force was illustrated in the announcement of the award of the title Hero of the Soviet Union to four women fliers from 20 to 25 years of age.

They were Major Evdokia Dikuleva, who, a citation said, took part in 800 sorties at night; Captain Maria Smirnova, who flew 3,200 sorties, 805 of them at night; Lieutenant Evdokia Pavlova, a navigator who flew 780 sorties; and Lieutenant Evgenia Rudneva, a navigator who participated in 3,500 sorties before being killed.

Amount of Cash Spent

On Beer Amazes Town
GREAT WYRLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE, ENG.—Shocked by statistics and not by their drinking, the residents of this village have learned that they spend approximately 25,000 pounds annually on beer.

The men blame it on the women, saying the women are the heavy drinkers and that actually the village as a whole is abstemious. But the records of the town's two pubs prove 25,000 pounds expenditure.

Indians Get 5 Mill on For 93-Year-Old Claim

WASHINGTON—The U. S. court of claims entered a judgment setting for \$5,021,842.34 a claim of the Indians of California which has harassed the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the federal government—not to mention the Indians—for almost a whole century.

The court's judgment in effect "ratified" 18 treaties rejected by the senate in 1852.

French Joyous, Foe Raze Town

Nazis Ravage Valley When People Defy Himmler's Demand for Labor.

GERARDON, FRANCE.—The Germans burned and blasted 30 miles of the once beautiful Meurthe river countryside of eastern France in an orgy of destruction planned as methodically as a military campaign, the mayor of this ruined town said.

Special engineers created pyres of gasoline and straw, welded with furniture, in most homes and farm buildings. Large houses were destroyed with aerial bombs. Special squads went through factories and broke up all machines with slidehammers.

The 60-year-old mayor, Andre Bucher, told about the destruction after correspondents had driven through the valley from Meurthe en route from the American Seventh army to the French First army sector. The valley was a scene of incredible destruction. Almost all the houses, whether clustered in hamlets or isolated far up the mountain, were destroyed by fire or explosives.

Carefully Planned.

The houses were destroyed by a "careful" plan for the destruction, which, the mayor said, descended upon Gerardon on November 9. The area was divided into sections, each under a chief of destruction. All were connected by phone with a central headquarters, where a lowering SS officer sat with a map on which was drawn the plan of destruction.

The mayor said Heinrich Himmler, German gesture chief, had visited Gerardon on September 7 to confer with six German generals. While taking a cold bath in the lake, Himmler saw many boys and girls enjoying themselves.

"How is it?" Himmler demanded of the mayor, "that these French girls are able to amuse themselves while the young men of Germany fight for the Fatherland?"

That night, the mayor said, a German soldier brought him an order from Himmler that all males from 14 to 60 must be assembled to build fortifications for the Germans. On November 8 the Germans took 600 men off to the woods, but 500 escaped. The next day the mayor was ordered to appear before the German commandant, who showed him a map with the area marked in the center outlined in red ink.

All to Be Destroyed.

"He told me that the entire population of that area, 11 by 8 miles, must join together in an area less than a square mile, which would be spared from destruction," the mayor said. "Everything, the commandant said, would be destroyed. He said he did not know why—that it was an order from above."

That day the Germans went into action as the people of the valley fearfully assembled in their assigned place. By November 18, the mayor said, all the houses were burning.

"On November 18 the Germans were gone and we were alone in our ruins," the mayor said. "On November 19 the French arrived. There was no demonstration. We were glad to see them. But what sorrow they could not have come a day or two earlier."

The funeral services of Booker Hancock were conducted at the Promise Land Baptist Church last Friday at 3 P. M., with Rev. J. A. Carter, pastor, officiating. Music was rendered by the church choir. Telegrams, condolences and resolutions were read by R. Q. Lawing. He was 84 years old. Besides his wife he leaves two sons, six daughters and a number of grandchildren and a few great grandchildren. Interment was in the church cemetery.

A special service will be held at this Sunday at 8 P. M. The pastor of the church will be the speaker. At the close of the service a rally for the purchase of robes will be conducted.

A large crowd attended the regular preaching service at the Galilee Baptist Church last Sunday. The Rev. Yates preached a happy sermon from the text, "The love of mankind." The church choir rendered special music. The service during the day was very pleasant. He gets two reels weekly. During the brief interval when reels are being changed, lights come on automatically and the radio plays. The projector is operated by a girl assistant.

Doctor Installs Movie Machine in Wat'ing Room.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Patients don't mull over old magazines while waiting to see Dr. Harold B. Johnson—they "take in a movie" instead. Dr. Johnson has installed motion pictures in his waiting room. The present consists of a projector and screen, complete with sound.

The doctor, a general practitioner, says his work multiplied many times since the beginning of the war, and he wanted to make waiting pleasant. He gets two reels weekly. During the brief interval when reels are being changed, lights come on automatically and the radio plays. The projector is operated by a girl assistant.

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Mr. John Brackenage Whitehead, 84, retired farmer, who had been living in Lynchburg, died Monday in a Lynchburg hospital. He was born in Appomattox, Va., April 9, 1860, the son of the late Robert W. and Lucy Grow Whitehead. He was a member of Trinity Methodist Church, this county.

Funeral services were conducted from Trinity Church yesterday at 2 o'clock. Interment was in the Grow family cemetery.

Hope for milder weather to ease fuel crisis.

Americans find severe shortage of food in Manila.

Japanese are reported making plans for eventual evacuation of Shanghai.

Say Russians want German labor to rebuild their country after the war.

De Gaulle reported not to be at Big Three Conference.

Butter supplies this month are slightly less in January.

We used three million pounds of butter daily in January.

U. S. may allocate some merchant ships to France.

400-Year-Old Quarry Is Largest French Shelter

PARIS.—The world's largest single air raid shelter, a 400-year-old underground stone quarry, is being visited with the greatest interest by U. S. Eighth air force officers conducting a bomb-damage inquiry.

The quarry, used in pre-war days to grow mushrooms, is near the Renault automobile plant and it was converted to a shelter to accommodate 20,000 plant workers. Its 100,000 feet of floor space is an orderly labyrinth of connected tunnels 10 feet high and 50 miles in length.

Brother Meets Sister

ON FAIR PACIFIC ISLAND

SEATTLE, WASH.—It happened on a far Pacific island—Clifford Derosia Jr., machinist's mate second class with the coast guard, was doing shore patrol and warned a WAC she was walking toward an out-of-bounds area. It was his sister, Ruth. He had returned for a rest period after service at Leyte and she had been transferred from an Australian base. They had been separated 19 months.

COLORED DOTS

A large crowd attended the regular monthly meeting of the Health for Victory Club at the Galilee Baptist Church last Sunday evening at 4 o'clock. The program was presented by several teachers of the county, with a special address by G. L. James, County Agent.

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Plant a VICTORY GARDEN

This Year and Raise PLENTY of point-saving Vegetables.

Plant WOOD'S Tested SEEDS

We have leading strains of improved GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS. Also, BULBS, GARDEN SUPPLIES, INSECTICIDES and BABY CHICKS. Also VICTORY GARDEN FERTILIZER 5-10-5, for Vegetable Crops.

Write for Free Copy of WOOD'S SPRING CATALOG. Also WOOD'S CROP SPECIAL. Ask your local dealer for WOOD'S SEEDS.

Oldest and Largest Seed Firm in the South

T. W. WOOD & SONS
Richmond, Va.

Try A Classified Ad

THOMAS EDISON

★ Born February 11th, 1847 ★



His life enriched yours

MUCH OF the convenience, many of the comforts, which we take for granted in today's electrical living... and which will be greatly increased in our postwar world... we owe to Thomas Edison, the Wizard of Menlo Park. He would ask no greater reward than that his inventions be used for the good of mankind, the destruction of evil.

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

Nothing pepes you up so quickly as a beauty massage. Leave it on for 10 to 20 minutes. The results are good! Here's a formula for a home-made masque: 2 tablespoonfuls of cod liver oil, 2 tablespoonfuls of water, 4 tablespoonfuls of cream. Blend them together. Use warm compress on the skin before applying your masque.

Report 5th Division gets priority on Furlough home.

ORGANIZED IN 1855

THE First National Bank of Lynchburg

OFFICERS

J. D. Owen, President
J. T. Noell, Jr., Vice-President
J. L. Jones, Vice-President
J. L. Nicholas, Cashier
L. W. Horton, Assistant Cashier
S. D. Morrisett, Assistant Cashier

RESOURCES: TEN MILLION DOLLARS

Member Federal Reserve System, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

THE OLD BIG STRONG BANK

Afternoon Dress

Stonewall, Feb. 6.—We all hope the old ground hog isn't going to bring us bad weather. Hope he failed to see his shadow.

Rev. Zane Grey Ross filled his pulpit at Hebron Church last Sunday morning at 11:30. He gave us a good sermon.

Misses Elizabeth Lee Carter and Mary Frances Jennings, of State Teachers College, Farmville, spent the week-end at their homes here.

Mrs. Anna Lee is spending this week with her sisters, Mrs. Lee Wheeler and Mrs. Florence Carson. Mrs. Carson has been sick for some time and we hope she will soon be well again.

Lt. and Mrs. Wayne Gregg, of Blacksburg, Va., spent the week-end with Rev. and Mrs. Zane Grey Ross.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Brown and Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Jobe and son, Billy, and Mrs. Minnie Jobe spent last Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Turner.

Miss Sue Davidson, of Spotsylvania, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Davidson. Mrs. Davidson is no better at this time.

Miss Mildred Morgan spent last Sunday with Miss Betty Wheeler.

Miss Fay Thomas, of Washington, spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Thomas.

Miss Lillie B. Davidson, of Richmond, spent the week-end at her home near here.

Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings and daughter, Mary Jennings, spent the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Carson.

Mrs. Hugh Brantford is teaching in the Pamplin High School. She is also a member of the P. M. E. Club.

Mrs. Clayton Drinkard had word from her brother, Mr. Herbert Cobb, who is a patient in a hospital in Buffalo, N. Y. at the time he was very ill. When she was called to his bedside several weeks ago he was very ill.

C. J. Harding, who has been sick for quite awhile, is slowly improving, at her home near here.

Glendale

Glendale, Feb. 6.—Miss Beulah Cheatham, of Lynchburg, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Thompson, and Mrs. J. W. Everitt. Thompson and family also resided in the same home.

Mrs. Ray Ferguson has returned home after a visit with her husband, who is training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia.

Mrs. Offie Hammonk has returned home from the Virginia Baptist Hospital, much improved.

John Hunter Harvey, who attends college at Williamsburg, spent a few days last week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hunter Harvey. Mrs. Harvey, who has been sick, is slowly improving.

Miss Beatrice Marshall was the guest of Miss Jean Cheatham on Sunday night.

Mrs. and Mr. Hunter Nash and family and Mrs. and Mr. Chap Nash and family visited Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Burks near Gladys last Sunday.

Miss Jane Marshall, who has a position in Lynchburg, spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Marshall.

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Torrence, of Lynchburg, spent Friday with their aunt, Mrs. N. L. Cheatham.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Nash and son spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Tweedy in Rustburg.

Mrs. J. B. English was in Lynchburg Wednesday.

Farmers have been busy with plant beds and plowing.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nash spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Cheatham. Mr. Cheatham expects to go to the army in a few days.

W. R. Franklin continues very sick. Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Franklin and son and Mr. and Mrs. Reese McKinney, of New York, visited him last week.

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Nor Seeing Any Shadows

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